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Prior to Jan. '55

Cleaning Pipe Lines With Welded Scrapers

THE cleaning of dirt from the interior of a pipe line is an awkward job. Certainly the cost of digging up the line is prohibitive in most instances. One method of cleaning relatively long lines is the use of scarifiers or "go-devils." These consist of a cylindrical body or a short rod having radial arms of blades which scrape the interior of the pipe, and a flexible gasket-like plate on one end which extends to the wall of the pipe so that gas pressure can be used to propel the scarifier through the line.

The scarifiers that were built by welding and hard facing are shown in Figs. 1 and 2. The "go-devil" shown in Fig. 1 is used for dislodging hard-caked dust and oil mud in a 24-in. line, and the type shown in Fig. 2 is used primarily for cleaning. Both of these scarifiers were constructed from pipe by welding and by hard facing the tips of the scarifiers or fingers with Haynes Stellite. The holes in bull-plug permit some gas to blow through and carry loose accumulations through the pipe. The diaphragm was made from a heavy ditching-machine conveyor belt backed by a third circular sheet of steel.

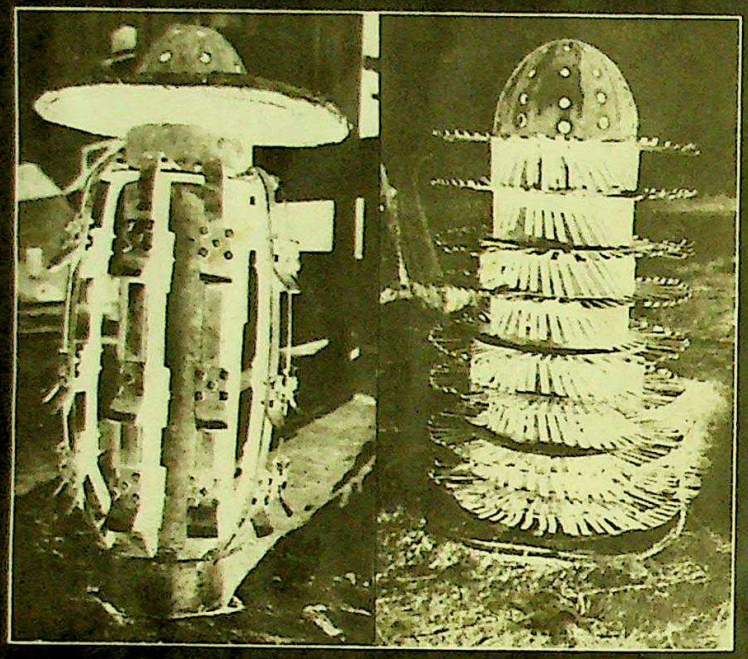
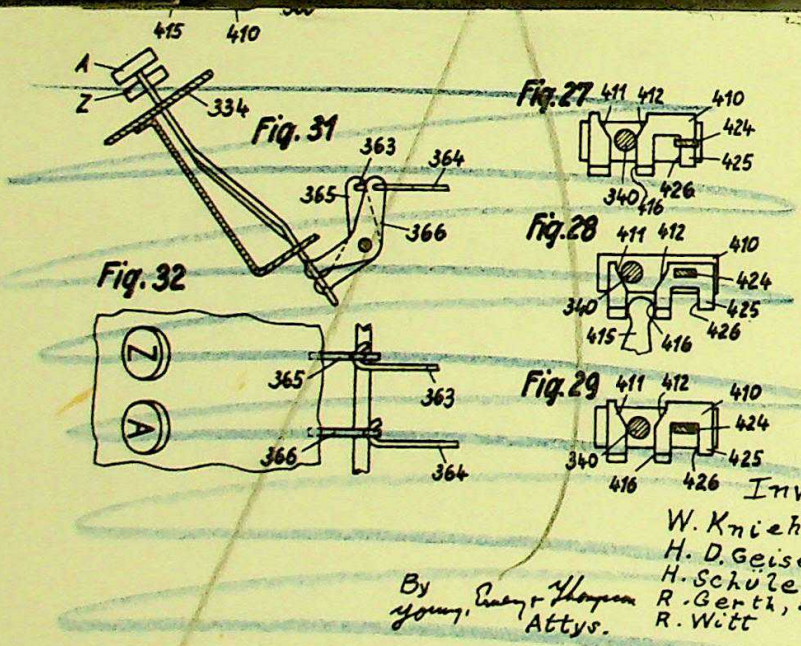


Fig. 1—(Left) Scarifier for dislodging dirt and mud. Fig. 2—(Right) Cleaner having hard-faced steel fingers



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